

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 145

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to honor the life and memory of Patrice Rasha Boyd of Haywood County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Tomcat legend Coach Patrice Rasha Boyd of Haywood County; and

WHEREAS, a community role model and leader, Patrice Boyd was an exemplary educator and coach for Haywood County Schools who distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to her community and this State; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of William and Mary Boyd, Patrice Rasha Boyd was a consummate student athlete; while a middle school student in Haywood County Schools, she was a member of 4-H Club and the volleyball and basketball teams and a basketball homecoming representative; in high school, she was a member of the freshman and varsity basketball and volleyball teams, track team, softball team, Spanish Club, and Delta Team; and

WHEREAS, named "Most Athletic" for the class of 1996, Coach Boyd was the first female player to letter in four sports; she received a triathlete award her senior year and won the title of Most Valuable Player at the district and regional levels; and

WHEREAS, a 1996 graduate of Haywood High School, Patrice Boyd was recruited by the University of Kentucky, where she played as a Lady Wildcat; she transferred to the University of Memphis and played as a Lady Tiger until she graduated in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Coach Boyd broke numerous records and received awards and recognition in abundance; she was well respected by her teammates and players and coaches everywhere; and

WHEREAS, Patrice Boyd began her teaching career in Tipton County Schools and Lauderdale County Schools, but she returned to Haywood County as an English language arts instructor at Haywood Middle School in 2017; in 2019, she moved to Haywood High School, where she continued teaching English; and

WHEREAS, Coach Boyd served as assistant basketball coach for Haywood High School for the 2016–2017 school year and as the head basketball coach from 2017 until the time of her passing; she also served as the school's Work Based Learning Coordinator while pursuing a master's degree in educational leadership at Lipscomb University; and

WHEREAS, Patrice Boyd led her team to the Class AA Sectional in the 2016–2017 season, Class AA State Semifinals in the 2017–2018 season, the Region 8 Quarterfinals in the 2018–2019 season, and the Region 8 Semifinals in the 2019–2020 season; and

WHEREAS, Coach Boyd was an active member of First Baptist Church, where she worked with the youth, helped with Vacation Bible School, and volunteered with the food pantry as the media person; and

WHEREAS, Patrice Boyd was loved and respected by family, friends, teammates, coworkers, church members, students, and community leaders alike; she was the connection and the glue for her family functions and outings; and

WHEREAS, she will be lovingly remembered by her parents; one brother, Cleadis (Shonna) Boyd; one nephew; Rodney (Ashante) Boyd; three nieces, Chabre Boyd, Ashley (Jeremy) Hunt, and Paige Labrador; one great-niece, Rhegan Boyd; a special great-nephew, Titus; her loving aunts and uncles, Dorothy Jones, Jacqueline (James) Currie, James (Mary) Kinnon, Loretta Kinnon, Larry (Arlene) Kinnon, Marcia Kinnon, Janice (Winston) Varnado, David (Tammy) Kinnon, Will Fred (Hazel) Boyd, Sr., Josephine Taylor, Linda Ingram, and Deborah Hess; and

WHEREAS, she is further remembered by her very special friends, Robyn (Meagan and Bella) Winston, Candance Jones, and Carla Ross; very special cousin, Santeia Kinnon; a host of cousins; and her very own special pet, E; and

WHEREAS, Coach Boyd was an integral part of Haywood High School and Haywood County Schools; she was genuine and cared deeply for the students in her care; and

WHEREAS, Patrice Boyd leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the extraordinary life of this exceptional coach, educator, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Patrice Rasha Boyd, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Coach Boyd.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.